Sino-futurism

Sinofuturism (1839-2046 AD)、2016 年、Lawerence Lek (if you want to recreate the experience of watching the original "video-essay"while reading this, randomly play songs from the Silent Hill, ***Silent Hill 2*** or Silent Hill 3 soundtrack. Doesn't matter in which part of the text. Maybe a song or two from the Evangelion OST)

(idk if i should add something···ig some times the bilingual title of the chapters pops in the middle of the screen, increasing the hypermedia/pastiche aspect of the whole thing, so there's that. maybe read randomly the title of the chapter that you're reading at the moment to also feel like you're watching the original video9

(also also there're probably many parts where whisper got the audio wrong, so thereś probably multiple random instances of non-sensical sentences, or string that kinda breaks the sentence)

(also also also, I manually edited the text to visually split the voice-synthesizer parts from the parts where Lek put pieces of other videos, but I didn't care to transcribe them clearly or make clear which person was talking inside some of the videos, like the reports of chinese social phenomenons)

(if you see a [···], that indicates some short part thas was omitted because I was lazy/it was almost impossible to transcribe what was happening in the documentary)

(also, the parts in chinese were ommited, because I don't know the language/don' t really trust the model/even if i trusted it to transcribe the audio correctly, i' d have to merge the english parts with the chiense parts and i'm lazy)

Sino-futurism is an invisible movement. A specter already embedded into a trillion industrial products, a billion individuals, and a million veiled narratives. It is a movement, not based on individuals, but on multiple overlapping flows, flows of populations, of products, and of processes. Because Sino-futurism has arisen without conscious intention or authorship, it is often mistaken for contemporary China. But it is not. It is a science fiction that already exists. This video essay is a retroactive manifesto for Sino-futurism, combining historical fantasy, documentary melodrama, and social realism with Chinese cosmologies. At this point, it is exactly the same. At this point, it is the same factor.

Although China only recently became the factory of the world, this is only the latest incarnation of the Chinese work ethic. It is a work ethic based on farm labor and large families, in an agrarian society prone to natural disasters, within a Confucian belief system that values hard work as the only insurance against a turbulent world. Multiple stereotypes of this eastern other are everywhere. Whether Chinese Olympic athletes are branded as robots, or Chinese students or tourists are likened to swarms, or Shenzhen factory workers are criticized for flooding the marketplace. The subtext is the same. It is the dehumanization of

the individual into a nameless, faceless mass. On the other hand is the Orientalist aesthetic narrative, where China is the exotic other, eternally unknowable, mysterious, powerless yet seductive.

But rather than resisting cultural cliches, Sino-futurism embraces seven key stereotypes associated with China. These are its guiding principles, computing, copying, gaming, studying, addiction, labor, and gambling. At a material level, it is already everywhere, in architecture, in the products and technologies that we use every day. However, I propose something more radical. I propose that Sino-futurism is in fact a form of artificial intelligence. A massively distributed neural network, focused on copying rather than originality, addicted to learning of massive amounts of raw data rather than philosophical critique or morality, with the post-human capacity for work, and an unprecedented sense of collective will to power. Rather than resisting stereotypes, Sino-futurism embraces cliches, many of which are reinforced by both East and West.

Just as Afro-futurists answered the historical problem of slavery by declaring themselves as post-human super-robots, Sino-futurism answers the Chinese problems of physical servitude, intellectual conformity, and computational OCD, by openly embracing artificial intelligence.

In computer science, one of the most promising routes to developing AI is a combination of neural networks and machine learning. Here, an interconnected mesh of programmed neurons learn from sets of data based on real-world phenomena. Engineers declare that the results of neural networks are always surprising, especially in competition against humans.

For a long time, grandmasters of the ancient game of Go considered themselves unbeatable against AI players. But in March 2016, the AlphaGo AI developed by Google DeepMind B Go World Champion Lee Siddle by four games to one. Most surprising was Lee's comment about some of AlphaGo's inhuman moves. He said he witnessed moves so profoundly unconventional, that only a program could conceive them. This essential unknowability of the AI to the human, of the mystique of a consciousness beyond conventional understanding, is exactly the same other identified in Orientalism. It is this oppositional other which Sino-futurism identifies with, reorienting the technological narrative in a way that the nameless, faceless mass of Chinese labor becomes a collective body.

Chapter 1: Computing. Could Sino-futurism be said to constitute an artificial intelligence?

The Chinese Room is a thought experiment by John Searle that questions the possibility of computers reaching consciousness. Like Chinese whispers, the word Chinese here is taken as synonymous with something fundamentally foreign and unknowable.

> Searle imagined a non-Chinese speaking person like me, in a bare room with an instruction manual and a selection of Chinese characters. He then imagined someone who could speak Chinese to be

> outside the room, communicating with me by a series of messages written using Chinese characters. Can you speak Chinese? The messages are posted to me through a door. And I had to come up with a response, even though I don't understand a word of Chinese. I haven't got a clue what this says, but if I follow the instructions in this book, I should be able to give some sort of response to this question, which will make some sort of sense, so let's have a look. I' ve got to find a little 1 over X symbol. The instruction book tells me to find an exact match of the message on the top half of the page, and then to reply by copying the Chinese characters from the bottom half of the page. So some of the characters in the question can be answered.
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> Gosh, I don't even know what way around to put these, but I think that's like a little house with a roof on the top, kissing this character here. Oh yes. Bingo. He knows what I just said. How do you speak Chinese? Sol compared the person in the room making up the Chinese messages to a computer reading a bit of code. How have you been to China? No, I haven't been to China, but would one day like to. I'm just faking that I can speak Chinese. So just how convincing was I? Yeah, your Chinese was perfect actually. But if we were online having a chat like that, you would have been convinced you were talking to me. I really, really would when you thought you were someone who actually spoke Chinese.
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> The Chinese room, I think, is a really important thought experiment. Not for the answers it offers, but more for the questions it raises, because I certainly didn't understand a word of what I was writing down there, and I seemed to be able to fake the fact that I was speaking Mandarin. So if a computer is actually following instructions, it isn't really thinking, is it? But then again, what is my mind doing when I'm actually articulating words now? It's following a set of instructions. So it really raises a question, where's the threshold here? At what point can you say that a machine is really genuinely understanding and thinking?

Chapter 2, Copying

Copy everything.

Respect for historical tradition is a main principle of Chinese aesthetics. Replicating old masters, memorizing old texts, following moral standards are all part of this tradition. But Sino-futurism absorbs everything. Nothing is sacred, authorship is overrated, copyright is wrong.

> The Chinese are very good at this sort of thing. I'm speaking to you now from behind a pair of fake Ray-Bans wearing a fake Armani jacket, carrying a fake Louis Vuitton bag in which we find a fake iPad and a fake iPhone. And if we consult my fake Omega, we see

> that it's 25 to 3, probably, which means it's time to pop into the fake Starbucks over there for a cup of fake coffee. It seems then that the expression copyright infringement doesn't translate terribly well into Mandarin. All of which explains this. It looks like a BMW X5, but actually it's a blatant copy called the Shuan-Wan S-CEO HBJ6474Y. Then there's this, a copy of the Fiat Panda. And this, a copy of the SmartForty. And this, a copy of the Daewoo Matisse. Did you hear about the Lifan Motorcycles? Lifan is a Chinese company, they make exact copies of small Honda motorcycles. But to make sure you don' t notice, they change the name on the tank. It's what? Hongda. H-O-N-G-D-A. Hongda. Hongda.
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> So on that basis then, is this mini a Mingi? The Mingi, it should be, yes. Because it is the most tragic looking thing. It's like somebody has described a mini to someone on the telephone, all sent to really blurry facts. Yeah. Right, there we are, that's what it looks like. It is very cheap though. How much is it? £4,100. That is cheap. But this Toyota Igo over here is only three and a half grand. It's not an Omega. That's an F-O. That's what it's called. F-O, I think that's a coded message to Toyota. If Toyota ever decides to sue the fake makers. Well actually, do any of these people ever get taken to court? Yeah. BMW seemed the people making the X5 family. And they lost. What? Yeah, the Chinese government said no, it doesn' t look any like an X5. We don't know what you're on about. It's funny, I thought they looked really similar. No, they didn't. Don't they? No. That's just me. No, it's just you. No.

The aesthetic of Sino-futurism combines gloss with grime. The notion of class, of taste, of good design, and of tackiness do not apply. Because the physical components of high technology are literally made in China. It makes no sense to produce visions of the future. It's already here.

> All the counterfeit auto parts, medicine, personal care products, and electrical components. In some instances, Western firms unwittingly paid investigators who themselves manufactured or sold counterfeit goods. In other cases, information about raids was fabricated. Some investigators were suspected of taking money to protect the very counterfeiters. Brands were paying them to fight. So the whole structure starts turning itself around on its head. And we who are supposed to be the good guys helping out the brands actually harm them more than we do any good. Numbers say the U.S. is losing the fight against fakes, especially dangerous ones. Among the 585,000 counterfeit parts seized in the last five years are counterfeit airbags, which not only failed to deploy, but also burst into flames and sent shrapnel towards the driver's face. We've seen counterfeit tires. We' ve seen counterfeit oil filters. We've seen counterfeit windshields of all things.

> Again, some of the more dangerous parts, such as airbags, such as brake parts, brake pads, those are extremely, extremely dangerous. Seas counterfeits often end up in warehouses like this one in New Jersey, under the supervision of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Here officers spend days going through thousands of boxes. The sheer volume is overwhelming. Everything from clothes to shoes to electronics ends up being flagged. This entire bag is filled with Michael Kors trademark emblems. So they're going to rip this off and put this on. Despite their efforts, officers say they've watched seizures of dangerous consumer products rise and the quality of the counterfeit's improved. Bob McCall, Associated Press.

Sino-futurism shares a critical optimism about technology with other movements, including the Italian Futurismo, Afrofuturism, and Gulf Futurism, while integrating specific cultural, historical, and industrial patterns unique to the region. All of these futurisms are minority movements which share an optimism about speed, velocity, and the future as a means to subvert the institutions of the present. Unlike Western Enlightenment forms of government, which revolve around a humanist belief in democracy as liberation from feudalism, futurism uses technology as the basis of freedom. Each futurism in turn applies a magical narrative about technology specific to their own geographic context.

Chapter 3. Gaming.

> Please give my letter to my mom. What did you do? I used the internet

Games are a training ground for a future reality, one where the individual will most likely perform repetitive tasks, individually and in groups. Why not start young? Gaming is training.

> My dad brought me here to see the doctor. But he locked me here instead. They tied my hands.
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> In 2008 China declared internet addiction to be a clinical disorder, saying it's a top health threat to its teenagers.
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> [···] League of Legends [···] It's the All Stars. China versus Korea. You guys all know what it's going to be. And the Red Team, looking like they may well go. Swalking straight, headlong into Shia. Willi Fasheck, now a push. This could be a very dangerous move, Jack. And we were wondering if there was going to be some level in action. Shia and MadLife trying to go. They're going straight in for it. That's going to be the build. They're going to MadLife with the Acceleration Gate. Had to be picked as the first skill for Shia. That may well actually hamper him when he goes into lane phase. Only a little bit. I've seen so many Jays to start the game with the gate just from that level and positioning. And since he's ranged, he can quite easily play passively up until that level too. But because China got

> the harass down on both MadLife and Shia, they're going to be able to take some positioning here in the blue buff. We'll see whether China stick around or whether they're going to back off. They're actually backing off in the bush. But that's quite clever because they know there's the ward on there. And it's actually going to keep Korea guessing. They've all gone back. And we talked about the Korean mind games that happened against North America just now. That was a great Chinese mind game right there because now Korea' s got to be extremely careful about where they go.
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> My Friend took me to an Internet cafe. He took me there to play games. I played and played, then my parents found out. I started to fight with them. THey sent me here. I would stay there all night. When I came home in the morning, I had to sit there and listen to my mome complaining. I stayed there for three days. It felt good [···] Our study shows that people who spend more than six hours on the internet for something other than work or study [.. .] again, for other than work or study, are most likely to become addicted to the Internet. Normal people can't imagine how these teenagers in our center use the internet. [···] We're the first in the world to set up a camp like this. I am supposed to be like a prison warden, although it's not a prison in a literal sense. I must care for them··· like a kindergarten head! I am mean to educate them as though I were a school master, When we arrived at this facility, I felt there was something sinister about this place and tried to leave, Bu the dirllmasters dragged me in here. I stayed in my house and played the computer for one month. After that, I was brought here. They say I am addicted to the internet, but I don't believet. Really, I don' t believe.

Edward Said's 1978 book Orientalism studies the cultural representations that are the basis of the West's patronizing perceptions and fictional depictions of the East, the societies, and peoples who inhabit the places of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. He argues that Orientalism, the Western scholarship about the Eastern world, was and remains inextricably tied to the imperialist societies who produced it, which makes much Orientalist work inherently political and servile to power, and therefore intellectually suspect. He argues that Western knowledge of the Eastern world depicts the Orient as an irrational, psychologically weak non-European other, which is negatively contrasted with the rational, psychologically strong West. Such a binary relation derives from the psychological need to create a difference of cultural inequality between West and East. Although important, Said's narrative created a paradigm where Orientalism has become a generalized swear word. That was a long time ago. Since the millennium, many journalists and writers have explored the significance of China as a rising global superpower, replacing Russia to balance America.

> It will also give them a chance to maybe shut down Diana a little

> bit, who, honestly, ambition won't be able to do. Now ambition has even more freedom roaming the map since there is no term protecting wage-out farming. If China wants to actually shut down wage-out a little bit, which is nearly impossible in most games on paper farm, because he's farming in that empty turn, ambition might have a chance to do. Well, we do hear ambition using the tone there on this side.

Airport bookstores around the world are lined with titles like China Shakes the World, The Rise of a Hungry Nation, Chinese Rules, Five Timeless Lessons for Succeeding in China, and Age of Ambition, Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China. In these titles, geared towards a global corporate elite, the desire to understand is deeply intertwined with an agenda to exploit. This is nothing new.

> [···] This is not lane, it's PDG under a little bit of pressure there. You can see that Tear of the Goddess was picked up early on by Shai, so he's going to start stacking that out. You can see he's clearly winning the CS battle. As you would expect, the Jayce is going to be able to clear those waves out very quickly. PDG really had to go with simple defensive, but uh-oh, there's going to be two members coming up there. We do see Insec and Shai, but it's quite clearly visible. And actually, MadLife forces the flash in mid lane, but I want to get back to this top lane matchup, because Shai has spent this entire game···

Within China, the so-called Century of Humiliation refers to the period of intervention and imperialism by western powers in Japan and China between 1839 and 1949. Today, the memory of colonial exploitation is mixed with rising nationalism. Yet the new market economy gives individuals unprecedented opportunities for growth and prosperity. The future always changes. In communist China, there was no need for futurism, utopia, or science fiction. Unlike Soviet Russia, China had no space program, and thus there was no need for state-sponsored films about a better tomorrow.

> Criticizing, accusing and blaming. You think these are the best ways to make them change, reflect and make progress? One of the biggest issue among these kids is loneliness. loneliness. Did you know they feel lonely? So where do they look for companions? The internet. They know the internet inside out, but nothing about human beings. They play to the point of losing themselves. Mom, I am really suffering. It's not because I can't play the computer here. But it's loneliness I feel. I beg you. Please. I can't live anymore. I can't read it anymore···Since my son started playing oonline games, he changed to another person···He became very cruel. I've tried many ways but nothing helped. Normal people can't imagine how these teenagers in our center use the internet.

I don't understand. I don't understand. Do you understand? I don't understand. Then···He wants to go to the water. There's no other way. Oh! He went to the internet world. He went to the heaven. He went to the internet world. He went to the heaven. He went to the earth. He went to China. Well, his last breath. In every day. He went to the internet world. He went to the internet world. I really feel pain, mom. I can't play computer games. I feel lonely. I'm bored. I want to beg you. I can't live anymore. I'm going to kill him. I'm going to kill him. Since my son died, I've changed my mind. I've changed my mind into crying. I don't know what to do. I'm going to give him the medicine he's taken. We're from Zhejiang.

But within these fantasy worlds, philosophical reflections on fate and destiny are common.

> In the beginning, people had nothing. Their bodies ached, and their hearts held nothing but hatred. They fought endlessly, but death never came. They despaired, stuck in the eternal quiet mire. Feeling pity for the sadness that had overrun the earth, God was born from those two people. God made time and divided it into day and night. God outlined the road to salvation and gave people joy. And God took endless time away from the people. God created beings to lead people in obedience to her. The Red God, Xu Chilbarra, the Yellow God, Lobsolvieth. Many gods and angels. Finally, God set out to create paradise, where people would be happy just by being there. But there, God's strength ran out and she collapsed. All the world' s people grieved this unfortunate event, yet God breathed her last. She returned to the dust, promising to come again. So God hasn't been lost. We must offer her prayers and not forget our faith. We wait in hope for the day when the path to paradise will be opened.

Chapter 4 Studying.

Be a machine. Aspire to learn more and assimilate knowledge. Do not judge the information itself, it is all a training set. Information overload leads to consciousness.

> However, one school in East China's Shandong province is helping young people overcome their addictions. Peter is looking forward to celebrating his 21st birthday, but rather than celebrating with family and friends with a party, he will instead be spending his big day in an internet addiction centre in Jinan, in East China's Shandong province. The Hongkai Education and Training School provides support and addiction recovery for young people from across the country. Peter was born in Xuzhou, a capital city of South China's Jiangsu province. At the age of six, he emigrated to America with his parents, but now he's back in China and studying at university. However, a month ago, his parents made the decision to send Peter to seek help for internet addiction, after struggling to

overcome an addiction to online video games for a number of years. Students at the Hongkai School wake up at 6am each morning to do group exercise. They then have classes just like any other school. On top of the average classes, students here also receive psychological counselling and social education. Peter will be here for four months.

The students are getting ready to go to the toilet. We were having a class. I asked for going to the toilet to go into the bath. I got downstairs and I thought of nothing. I just ran. Then the teacher caught up with me and called me. I thought leaving outside with nothing is better than having this. So I ran away. In the first two weeks that I was here, I found it really hard to cope. I felt tired, was cold all the time and got a fever. I also wasn't used to the diet here. Now I'm gradually starting to feel better. For the teachers at the school, dealing with a westernised patient like Peter has been an eye-opening experience. In the beginning, we were anticipating a lot of new issues with Peter's rehabilitation program. But so far, we have received positive results, not only in his psychological reports, but also in his behaviour. He has accepted that he will not be able to play games like he did in the past and that he needs to give his studies his main focus in the future.

The pressures of framing for examinations are nothing new in China. Since the Sui dynasty that began late in the 6th century, tax-based appointmentization were used to select government officials. Today, nearly 9.8 million Chinese high school students took the national college entrance exam called Gaokao on June 7 and 8. This exam is a make-or-break examination that tests students'ability to memorize texts, characters, dates and concepts that make few demands in terms of critical thinking or analysis. These are its two motives. Life is not a rehearsal because you won't have the chance to leave it all over again. If you haven't died from hard work, just work harder.

However, the would-be cheats were not so easily put off. After bribing the examiners, they would insert some special phrase or code into their answers. In just over a week's time, the final year students at Shioning will face the most important right of passage of their academic lives. The universally feared Gaokao exams. As Gaokao is coming closer and approaching, I think the atmosphere is a little different than before. I can sense that many students have a lot of pressure. As well as being an English teacher, Mr. He is a [bandurine] or class tutor of one of the 11 senior classes facing the Gaokao. Being a teacher means a lot to me. Being a teacher means sometimes a friend will serve my students with the help of my heart.

It's his job to support his class and to ensure a good pass rate. For these bright students, it would be disastrous to fail. If you fail in Gaokao, chances are that you won't be admitted to colleges or

universities, so you won't be able to find good jobs in the future. 17-year-old Wu Youfei is in Mr. He's class. In the last three years, Mr. He has become something of a mentor to Shioning's top student. My student, Wu Youfei, is not only the best student here in this school, but also the best student in our city. Even one of the best students in our province, even in the country, is very proud of her.

Mr He, my class teacher, give me more help than anyone. Whenver I am in trouble he helps me out of my confusion

I like playing Mahjong with my grandpa···to see whose luck is in. He' s played Mahjong for more than 10 years now. Like most Chinese kids, Wang Jianwen is an only child. He's lived with his grandpa since his mum and dad went to work in the city three years ago. He sees his parents twice a year at Chinese New Year and in the school summer holidays. Although his mum and dad are not here···he never cires for thme. He just stays at home and does his homework. That' s what I like best about him [···] He's only a child and because we' re away···he gets lonely. It's all different now

[···] You can see the tear of the goddess was picked up early on by Shai Tzu. He's going to start stacking that up. You can see he's clearly winning the CS battle. As you would expect of Jason. [···]

I'm just not cut out for this kind of work···but if I don't study hard ···it will be difficult to find a job in the future. A serious mistake was made in exam room 14. If it happens again, the rule breakers will be punished. The Gaokao exam has only existed in its current high pressure form since 1977, when it was introduced after the end of the Cultural Revolution. The schooling of a generation had been hugely disrupted by Chairman Mao's attempts to rid the country of what he saw as its elite educated class. Schools were completely closed for three years and there were no exams for over a decade. The headteachers of both Shioning and Haiyang were amongst the first to sit the exam when it was reintroduced. [···] When I sat it, the university acceptance rate was only 4%. We've had 30 years of economic reform now···and our acceptance rate is now %50 [···] The Gaokao exam was held in China in 2009.

After the re-birth of paradise, the world was disborded by the country. Now we have to consider ourselves as well. Also that which you must become the one who would lead us to paradise with blood-stained hands.

Of course, artists and writers in China have already explored the impact of technology. Author L. Yusuen also introduced science fiction to China by translating the works of Jules Verne into Mandarin and recently Lou Sixen won the Hugo Award for his trilogy, The Three Body Problem. While contemporary artists like Cao Fei and Ying Miao explore the impact of virtual worlds and the

Internet on society, Sino-futurism is not specific to China. Like its products, students and people, it is distributed globally.

Chapter 5. Addiction.

Addiction is the shadow of hard work. We embrace it.

> Up until this point, under British law, only the British East India Company were allowed to trade with China. But in 1833, just one year after Jardine Matheson was formed, the trading monopoly was scrapped. Adventurers and opportunists flooded to Canton like bees to a honey bar. Yet Jardine and Matheson were ahead of the game. The Scots had already set up shop outside the main city walls in an area of Canton known as the Thirteen Factories. This was where one addiction was traded for another. Tea for a group. To entice more users, Jardine Matheson even stooped to employing a priest to distribute small opium packets with chapters of the Bible. By 1836, the number of opium chests arriving from India had shot up sixfold, to 30,000 a year. Jardine Matheson was responsible for about a quarter, that's 500 metric tons of contraband. China's smokers smoked for pleasure.
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> What could be wrong with supplying their growing demand? The officially forbidden trade was now the largest international commerce in any single commodity anywhere in the world. The reaction wasn' t long and coming. In 1839, Emperor Dao Guang declared a war on drugs. And here in human, at the mouth of the river Pearl, they have built an opium war museum, which tells quite a remarkable story. So these are the Thirteen Factories. That's how it all started. The Emperor ordered a series of drug raids on the Western traders. Here are two heroes, Mr. William Jardine and Mr. James Matheson. Described as opium smugglers. Neat.
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> The Chinese army locked the British traders in the Thirteen Factories and forced them to surrender. 42,000 opium pipes and 20,000 chests of opium with a street value of two million sterling were seized. All of these pictures denote the scale of the suffering that people went through as a result of the overindulgence of opium. And there's a mother crying with a child there and a slightly emaciated figure. Looks really quite far gone. The confiscated opium was smashed up and dumped into massive pits. And on the 3rd of June, it was chemically burnt by adding lime. And eventually it was washed out to see how distinct it was appalling.

Chapter 6. Labour.

Labour will always work. Its nature changes, agricultural, industrial, technological, but the principle stays the same.

It seems now the whole world can't stop talking about Fourth Industrial Revolution, which is fast approaching with rapid breakthroughs and fields such as the Internet of Things, Robots, Artificial Intelligence and 3D Printing. So how fast are robotic technologies developing in China? Our reporter Laura Lowe is standing by to discuss this topic following her recent trip to two industrial 4.0 factories. Laura, I looked at your footage. They look super fun. No, they're amazing. An era of robots is really not that far away from us anymore, Tracy. Just take a look at BMW's newly opened engine factory in northeast China, Shenyang. It is an eye-opener for those who fantasised about a futuristic manufacturing plant full of swinging robot arms taking command from smart computers. The engine plant, which is the first of its kind outside Europe, is among the most advanced factories in the world, as it boasts smart systems that help make work easier for humans. The world's largest luxury automaker, BMW, started the year with a bang by kicking off a new engine plant in the world's biggest auto market. The new factory in Shenyang in northeast China's Liaoning province will produce 300,000 engines per year, all of which will be used in locally made models. With three new more models coming into localisation and the first one will come this quarter, we decided we needed a fully-fledged engine plant.

We believe in China, we believe in the further growth of the car market. The Chinese car market is the largest car market in the world and will stay like that. Its rival, Mercedes, started making engines in China two years earlier as competition intensifies. More emphasis has been put on technologies to boost efficiency and reduce costs as well as emissions. In this BMW's new engine factory in Shenyang, some of the most advanced industrial 4.0 technologies are being used to detect the tiniest flaws that lead so to engine making, with the smallest the size of one quarter of a human hair. We have to make the work easier for the workers to handle it and we leave the creative parts to the workers. But for the tedious routine jobs more and more we bring in what the industry is calling smart robots. Smart robots are working side by side with our employees.

China gets 97& of rare earth minerals. This company tries to go anywhere in the world and get rare earth minerals. The federal government sues them, shuts them down, won't let them import it. That's a whole other scandal. You think they're just shutting off our coal plants? You think they're just setting up internal tariffs with regulations to make our jobs go to China? They're hitting us on thousands of precision warfare economic fronts. I get chills when I talk about this. I mean holding this country down has been incredibly hard for the globalists but they've done it. All our money to build a giant military that fights to build the world government

and then we get the blame. China gets all of our major deep water ports east and west coast. China gets the Panama Canal for free. We built it. We run it. The only passage from the Atlantic into the Pacific other than going around the horn. We give them something worth an estimated five trillion dollars in a treaty. In 1979 and it' s transferred in 2000 and Congress couldn't even stop it. Let me just keep going forever. Our last lead smelting plant closed. We can' t even produce bullets in America. Our components are made in China for the fighter planes and the missiles. It's a total takeover. It isn't dumb leaders that make bad deals. They made deals. That's why Maurice Strong and all these globalists end up retiring in China. In Taiwan, in Hong Kong, they're gone.
They made the deals with a country that had a billion slaves, now a billion, 300 million. I began to get into iodine a few years ago because it was helping me and my family so much get healthy and detoxify. I believe our research is conclusive. This is the best iodine out there. And I know this for a fact. Nobody else has got iodine based on these pure crystals, ladies and gentlemen. For a limited time, experience the ancient power of survival shield X2. I believe our research is conclusive. This is the best iodine out there. Take advantage of this at infowarslife.com.

Industrial robots have already entered the market now in batch production after developing for nearly half a century. Meanwhile, robots working in special environments will see big growth, such as in chip and LED manufacturing, along with ultra-hygienic or even vacuum rooms. And there are also service robots that already have some of the world's leading AI technologies. Our service robots rely on laser light to perceive their environment and locate themselves, so they can walk around without touching anything or any people. They can see and identify human faces, strike a conversation and recharge themselves. The company has also established a digital factory with industry 4.0 standards, which uses robots to make robots. In this almost fully automated factory, rows and rows of robot arms are quickly making many of their own kind. But of course, with the help of human ways, that robot-human relationship is at the epicenter of global debate, as automatic technologies are expected to replace more than 7 million workers worldwide in the coming years. We expect even larger-scale jobs will shuffle, but we don't say people will lose their jobs. We say they will leave their jobs, as these positions simply are not suitable for the well-being of people or personal development. We have entered an era with a new manufacturing model, where a large amount of low-end jobs will be replaced by robots and intelligent manufacturing. It's an inevitable trend. However, the inevitable reshuffling of jobs is being accompanied by a labor shortage. As the working-age population in China fell by al-

most five million in 2015, the fourth consecutive year of decline, that's why it's getting harder and harder for employers to find cheap labor. All these factors plus the rise of robots will force China to improve its economic structure, although the process may be painful. This time, Industry 4.0 won't leave us the options to keep surviving on drudgery or low-end labor-intensive work, even if some Chinese businesses want to continue surviving like this. However, we should use this opportunity to improve our industrial structure and move up our manufacturing level.

That leaves us with the question of what jobs people would do after being replaced by robots. If we can make enough wealth through technology, do humans have to work at all? We may create many new jobs that are unimaginable at present. For example, chatting or social welfare efforts can be the jobs of the future. Of course, I'd like to paint my own pictures, but it's very difficult because I come from a very poor town, so I'd need to save a lot of money to make my own art. Chin's workplace is in the village of Darfun on the outskirts of Shenzhen, the centre of China's southern industrial heartland. A region famed for fake apples and gucci's is also the production hub for fake transform from a rural community of 300 to a thriving hub of some 8,000 artists, responsible for creating 60% of the world's oil paintings. On its streets, Edvard Munch jostles for attention with Vincent van Gogh. A contest Vincent appears to be winning, not surprising when you can get one for about $40. The biggest sales, the village turned over $50 million in 2007, come from overseas orders, but that business was hit hard by the global recession. That's where Chun Li's focus has always been. He doesn' t deal in knockoffs. His work is his own original take on the ancient art of Chinese calligraphy. A few death strokes can earn him up to $1,000 per piece. And hold, he says, complexity and meaning absent from the oil paintings of his neighbours. Western art, you can learn day by day. But Chinese calligraphy, you need to keep accumulating the cultural traditions and keep practicing. And one day, you realise you've become a master. That takes a long time.

Lay down your lives to stop any intruders. Prove your loyalty to me.

When every part is on hand, grills assemble like a simple puzzle. Wires are linked to the heating element and the element is fixed to the plate. Mr. He finally arrives and he has good news. He's found 2,000 parts to keep the lines moving and 50,000 more are on the way. Mr. He's day has ended on a high note. He heads home to a company subsidised apartment only minutes away. Family life in China is a communal affair. His parents and his in-laws live here, thanks to Yuba. It's one more reason workers are fiercely loyal to their company. Our products all have the Made in China tag. I

> hope our products can bring to consumers a sense of joy, a sense of it's worth it. This is my biggest wish. Flooding the market, depressing prices, and not only exporting aluminum, not only exporting steel, but they're exporting unemployment. And so we're demanding that the government, the Congress, the House and Senate, we' ve got letters of support coming from the House and the Senate, bipartisan, we've asked the president last week in hearings to take it, self-initiating some actions. I can say that when we filed a case we've had tremendous support from the administration, not enforcement. Our problem is we have to show that we've been damaged, that we' ve lost jobs before we get a chance to win the trade case. So we're at a really crucial point right now. So this is now no longer an issue just for the United States. It is a global issue and this has caused quite a global conversation when it comes to reeling in China and it is state-supported.

Chapter 7. Gambling.

> I like playing Mahjong with my grandpa···to see whose luck is in. He's played mahjong for more than 10 years now

If in doubt, gamble. To escape the drudgery of labor and study, gamble. In his brief history of Chinese fiction, Liu Sun coined the term Shen Emu to describe the folk myths and legends of history. These are a staple of the Chinese and Hong Kong film, looking backwards to a nostalgic past filled with gods, demons and martial arts heroes, but within these fantasy worlds, philosophical reflections on fate and destiny are common. Faced with the chaos of the world, how can an individual survive? What role do fortune and luck play?

> [···] Directly protecting this one stone will allow Black to play towards the right side and make a framework here while we allow Black to take the corner and create a weak Black room. Am I Black played once here? This is really big and helping Black to play. Well, I think I'm a bit speechless actually. It was a really amazing game today. Unbelievably exciting. Incredibly tense all the way through. I think it's testament to Liu Sun's incredible skills and very exciting match. We're very pleased also that AlphaGo played some quite surprising and quite beautiful moves according to the commentators, which was pretty amazing to see. And I don't really know why. I think we said it might have been worth it.
>
> So yesterday I was surprised, but today it's more than that. I am quite speechless. I would have to say if you look at the way the game was played, I admit that it was a very clear loss on my part. From the very beginning of the game, that was not a moment in time that I felt that I was leading the game. Yesterday, while yesterday I did, as I was playing the game, felt that AlphaGo had placed certain problematic positions. But today I really feel that AlphaGo had

> played a near perfect game. There was not a moment that I felt that AlphaGo's moves were unreasonable.
>
> [···]The way the game was played, it was quite surprising. In this second game, where AlphaGo had black, I was very interested to see how AlphaGo would be playing with black because it's a different game than playing with white and that black player has first move and should be able to take more control of the game. Differently from the games played in October, I was very, very impressed by the way AlphaGo did play some innovative and adventurous, dangerous-looking moves that actually made them work. And of course, even before AlphaGo was very strong in the middle game and going on to the end game, I think that the ability is being extended also. So I was very impressed by a beautiful game in AlphaGo play. Thank you.

Why is gambling so popular then? Culturally, the belief in luck and fortune is one antidote to repetitive labor. A randomized attempt at bringing agency to your life, changing your boring destiny. Although the degree of actual skill varies from game to game. From Machang, Go, Poker, to video games, the combination of luck and hope is addictive. Social gathering mixes well with it too.

Across poker tables, internet cafes, wireless connections, and casinos around the world. But where Sino-futurism intersects with gambling is in an intense belief in the future. This future is the imprint of a society based on the field, and the factory, a future propelled by dreams of prosperity and the transcendence of work.

It is no accident that much artificial intelligence research focuses on making programs play games, winning and losing are clearly defined. So programmers get the right feedback for their work. After playing the Go AI AlphaGo, Lee Sedol remarked that his AI opponent did not care about winning, but only tried to minimize the chances of losing. That bears repeating. AlphaGo did not care whether it won by a large or small margin, as long as it did not lose.

Sino-futurism does not care about a dramatically better future, as long as it survives. It must replicate itself. It does not matter if it manufactures the greatest product in the world, as long as the engine keeps running.

As stated at the beginning, Sino-futurism is in fact an early form of the singularity, an artificial intelligence, whose origin or behavior is impossible to identify with certainty. It is a massively distributed network, focused on copying rather than originality, addicted to machine learning rather than ethics or morality, with the total capacity for work, and an unprecedented sense of survival.

It is not the other, either. Orientalism is the shadow of Occidentalism. In the West, the East is the other, in the East, the West is the other. Sino-futurism moves beyond these boundaries. It is a world that exists in plain sight.

[music and the title appears again]

- Hong kong gamblers recovery center.
- I want to ask, is it···wellm ho should I say it? Is it hopeless?
- Nothing is Hopeless.